Raiders roll

The Raider varsity grid squad scored twice in the first quarter then staved off attacks by Rustburg's offense to win their second game in three outings Friday night, 13-7.

The Raiders drove 57 yards on their first possession of the night, capping the drive with an 11-yard touchdown pass from Appomattox quarterback Kevin Ferguson to Mark Kelso. The Raiders' point-after-touchdown attempt was good, and Appomattox held a 7-0 lead.

Then, on the Raiders' next possession, Dennis Fleshman exploded for a 65-yard scoring run, to give the Raiders a 13-0 advantage.

Rustburg scored late in the game, when the Red Devils capitalized on a Raider error, recovering a fumble on the Appomattox nine-yard line. Bill Scott slipped into the end zone from six yards out and John Rosser made the point-after attempt good to complete the Red Devils' scoring.

The Raiders missed a third scoring opportunity in the third quarter, on a high snap from center which resulted in a fumble during a 27-yard field goal attempt.

Raider coach Gary Cuccio said he was "very pleased with the team's play against Rustburg," Friday night.

"We're getting our offensive timing down, and Friday night we had most of our injuries healed," the coach continued.

Friday's contest with Rustburg was a tough one physically, however, and several Raiders, including quarterback Kevin Ferguson, received injuries which may affect this week's starting lineup.

The Raiders gained 270 yards rushing against Rustburg, and 125 yards in the air for a total of 395 yards offensively.

Fleshman led Raider runners with 134 yards on 14 carries. Ron Carter picked up 32 yards on seven carries, Ferguson picked up 79 yards on nine carries, Tommy Smith had one reception for 15 yards, Jody Williams had one reception for 10 yards, Mark Kelso caught six passes for 84 yards, and Rodney Bryant carried eight times for 24 yards.

Cuccio said this week's game with Nelson County will put the Raiders against "the most improved team in the district."

The coach called Nelson County an "excellent team," noting that 87 candidates turned out for drills the first day of practice this summer.

"It should be a good game against Nelson Friday night," the coach said. "We had some injuries against Rustburg, but if we can pull together and take up some of the slack created by these injuries, we expect to have a good game against Nelson."

The Raiders, now 2-1, will face off Nelson County Friday night in Bragg Stadium behind Appomattox Middle School.

Ricky Miller

Roy Trent

Kevin Ferguson

Mark Kelso

5 Raiders cited

Five members of the Raider varsity football team were cited for their efforts in last week's victory against Rustburg.

Ricky Miller was named the defensive lineman of the week, and Roy Trent was named the offensive lineman of the week following the Rustburg game.

Kevin Ferguson and Mark Kelso were named the offensive backs of the week, and Rodney Bryant was named the defensive back of the week following Friday night's game.

Miller was credited with six tackles and six assists in the game against Rustburg. Trent "did an outstanding job blocking on the offensive line" against Rustburg, according to Raider Coach Gary Cuccio.

Quarterback Kevin Ferguson completed nine of 13 passes for 125 yards, and rushed nine times for 79 yards against the Red Devils. Kelso caught six passes for 84 yards in the Rustburg contest.

Bryant made three unassisted tackles, two of which prevented Rustburg touchdowns, and carried the ball eight times for "24 very tough yards," according to Cuccio.

The backs of the week will receive free Whoppers, french fries and Cokes from Burger King. The Linemen of the week will receive free steak dinners from Jeanne's Restaurant.

Jayvees still unbeaten

The junior varsity Raiders won their third straight game of this season Thursday, in a 20-12 victory over Rustburg. Both teams entered the contest undefeated, and Rustburg had not been scored on until the Appomattox game.

The first quarter was scoreless, with defense dominating the play if both teams.

In the second quarter, the Raiders scored on a 10-yard screen pass from quarterback Paul Johnson to Ricky Turner. The try for the extra point was unsuccessful, and the first half ended with the Raiders in front, 6-0.

In the third quarter, the Red Devils tied the score on a 60-yard screen pass and a missed extra point. But the Raiders came back and mounted a 60-yard scoring drive which ended with Ricky Turner garnering his second score of the day on a 12-yard run. Johnson then hit Ronald Kelso for the two-point conversion to increase the Raiders' lead to 14-6. In the final quarter, the Raiders again drove the ball downfield to score, this time on a three-yard run by Ricky Turner, to increase the margin to 20-6. Rustburg scored late in the game against the Raider reserves to make the final score 20-12, and set the Raiders' record at 3-0 for the season.

"The defense again played very well, being fooled only once when Rusburg scored on a screen pass," said coach Howard Clabough after the game.

Carl Banks led the defense with 11 tackles, followed by Lonnie Hamlett and Ricky Turner, with seven each, Carroll Patrick and Anthony Browder, each with six, and Phil Bollinger, with five tackles.

The offense was led by Ricky Turner (46 yards and three touchdowns), Ronald Kelso (42 yards), Kinckle Robinson (30 yards) and quarterback Paul Johnson, who went six for 10 passing for 45 yards.

The Raiders will travel to Nelson County tonight (Wednesday) for a 6 p.m. game with the Governors, who as of this writing were undefeated and unscored upon.

Banks, Turner cited

Carl Banks and Ricky Turner have been named the Appomattox junior varsity lineman and back of the week, respectively.

As lineman of the week, Banks led the Raider defense with 11 tackles and helped open some holes on offense in the second half against the Red Devils of Rustburg.

He will be treated to a free meal at Burger King for his efforts.

As back of the week, Ricky Turner led the Raider offense with three touchdowns and 46 yards in ten carries against the Red Devils. He also played a stellar defensive game with seven tackles and an interception from his linebacker position.

Ricky is named back of the week award for the second time this season and will receive a complimentary meal from the Dairy Queen for his performance.

Carl Banks

Ricky Turner

Tourney set

The Falling River Country Club annual Men's Captain's Choice golf tournament will be held Oct. 2 and 3 at the country club course.

Those wishing to participate may sign up at the country club in the men's locker room, or by calling 352-8426.

Cost of tournament registration is $7.

Raideretts win games no. 5 & 6

The Appomattox Raideretts varsity basketball team continued to roll last week, winning their fifth and sixth games against Altavista and Brookville.

Tuesday's 38-26 Raiderette victory against Altavista saw the local team off to a slow start, taking an 8-6 advantage in the first quarter, and extending that lead to 14-9 as the first half ended.

Lolita Preston, Rhonda Jaggars and Sandra Watkins scored for the Raiderettes in the first half. Raiderette leading scorer Ruby Smith sat out most of the first half.

Altavista chipped away at the Raiderette lead in the third quarter, scoring 12 points to the Raiderettes' eight and coming to within one point of the Appomattox team, with the score 22-21 at the end of the third period.

In the final quarter, however, the Raiderettes rallied for 16 points while holding Altavista to five, and the game ended with the Raiderettes notching their fifth win of the year, 38-26.

Coach Mary Tolley commended Rhonda Jaggars and Lolita Preston for their "exception defensive game" against Altavista. She noted that Jaggars and Preston also scored eight points each. The coach also commended Jaggars and Sandra Watkins for their 11 and 13 rebounds, respectively. Lolita Preston drew praise from the coach for her five steals (four in the first quarter) and her three assists.

Ruby Smith was the leading scorer with 20 points, followed by Lolita Preston with eight points, Rhonda Jaggars with six points, and Sandra Watkins, with four points.

Julie Campbell with eight points was the leading scorer for Altavista.

Thursday's game against Brookville was an easier contest for the Raiderettes, who walked away with their sixth victory of the year, 59-30.

The Raiderettes jumped out to an early 18-7 lead in a first quarter which saw Ruby Smith scored eight of her game high 39 points.

The local team stretched their lead to 34-15 in the second quarter. The third quarter again saw the Raiderettes stretch their lead, as Appomattox scored 17 points to Brookville's 8. In the final period of play Appomattox scored eight points to Brookville's 7, to set the final score at 59-30.

Smith's game-high 39 points were followed by Lolita Preston's 10 points, Sandra Watkins' four points, Rhonda Jaggars' three points, two points from Angie Murray and a point from Suzan Eye.

The Raiderettes hit on 17 of 39 attempted freethrows for a 44 percent performance from the foul line.

Laurie Guthrie and Melissa Woody were high scorerers for Brookville, with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

The Raiderettes were scheduled to play Liberty Tuesday after the Times-Virginian deadline. Thursday the girls are scheduled to travel to Buckingham for an 8 p.m. game against the Lady Knights.

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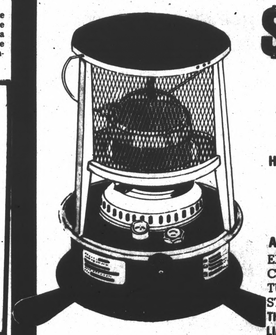
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